

Docket No.: 52352-372



410/B
G/3102
PATENT
PCT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

: **RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116**
: **EXPEDITED PROCEDURE**

Jeffrey A. SHIELDS, et al.

:

Serial No.: 09/498,336

: Group Art Unit: 1765

Filed: February 04, 2000

: Examiner: V. Perez-Ramos

:

For: CF4 + H2O PLASMA ASHING FOR REDUCTION OF CONTACT/VIA RESISTANCE

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116

Box AF
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

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Sir:

The following Amendment and Remarks are submitted in response to the Office Action dated December 31, 2001, pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR § 1.116.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1 and 14 as follows:

1. (Amended) A method of manufacturing a semiconductor device, the method comprising:

forming a first dielectric layer on a substrate;

(81) forming a first patterned conductive layer having gaps on the first dielectric layer, the first patterned conductive layer comprising a first conductive feature having an upper surface and side surfaces;

depositing a dielectric gap fill layer to fill the gaps;

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: Response Under 37 CFR 1.116 - Expedited Procedure

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Serial No.: 09/498,336

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Box AF
THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an Amendment in the above identified application.



No additional fee is required.



Applicant is entitled to small entity status under 37 CFR 1.27



Also attached:

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

| | NO. OF CLAIMS | HIGHEST PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR | EXTRA CLAIMS | RATE | FEE |
|---------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|--------------|-----------|--------|
| Total Claims | 20 | 20 | 0 | \$18.00 = | \$0.00 |
| Independent Claims | 2 | 3 | 0 | \$84.00 = | \$0.00 |
| Multiple claims newly presented | | | | | \$0.00 |
| Fee for extension of time | | | | | \$0.00 |
| | | | | | \$0.00 |
| Total of Above Calculations | | | | | \$0.00 |

- Please charge my Deposit Account No. 500417 in the amount of \$0.00. An additional copy of this transmittal sheet is submitted herewith.
- The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 500417, including any filing fees under 37 CFR 1.16 for presentation of extra claims and any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

MCDERMOTT, WILL & EMERY


Arthur J. Steiner

Registration No. 26,106

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